



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/696,220	10/26/2000	Masafumi Kokura	925-165	4305
23117	7590	03/03/2006	EXAMINER	
NIXON & VANDERHYE, PC 901 NORTH GLEBE ROAD, 11TH FLOOR ARLINGTON, VA 22203			AUGHENBAUGH, WALTER	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			1772	
DATE MAILED: 03/03/2006				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

4

<b>Response to Rule 312 Communication</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	09/696,220	KOKURA ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>	
	Walter B. Aughenbaugh	1772	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

1. ☒ The amendment filed on 02 August 2005 under 37 CFR 1.312 has been considered, and has been:

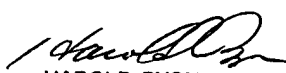
- a) ☐ entered.
- b) ☐ entered as directed to matters of form not affecting the scope of the invention.
- c) ☐ disapproved because the amendment was filed after the payment of the issue fee.

Any amendment filed after the date the issue fee is paid must be accompanied by a petition under 37 CFR 1.313(c)(1) and the required fee to withdraw the application from issue.

- d) ☐ disapproved. See explanation below.
- e) ☒ entered in part. See explanation below.

*The amendment in claim 17 has been entered in order to correct the errant change of dependency of claim 17 made in the Examiner's Amendment mailed May 17, 2005.*

*The amendment made in claim 1 and the amendment made in claim 7 has not been entered since these amendments were made in the Examiner's Amendment mailed May 17, 2005. While claims 1 and 7 are identified as "(Previously presented)" in the Amendment filed August 2, 2005, both claims are marked up. The word "in" is struck through in line 7 of claim 1. The word "an" is struck through in line 6 of claim 7. These amendments were made in the Examiner's Amendment mailed May 17, 2005.*

  
 HAROLD PYON  
 SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
 1772

2/9/06